ARIZONA

CALIFORNIA

HAWAII

NEVADA

PACIFIC BASIN

Resource Library Directors Meet

by Beryl Glitz

The annual meeting of the Resource Library Directors for the Pacific Southwest Region was held at Covell Commons on the UCLA campus on September 2, 1998. A brief review of some of the major areas of discussion is included below. Please contact our office if you would like any further information about any of these items.

Loansome Doc: Since the beginning of the year, when the Loansome Doc (LD) feature was added to PubMed on the Internet, there has been a steady increase in the number of requests for document delivery by this method. PSRML has experienced a surge in callers looking for LD libraries, including individuals from other countries. Directors shared their own libraries' experiences; some have seen dramatic increases in requests, though very few have had them from international users. PSRML is adding information to its Web site to help international users locate RLs that are willing to accommodate them. Apart from the increase in numbers, users are also beginning to ask for electronic delivery of articles. Many libraries

are not set up to do this and PSRML is interested in ways of encouraging this among network libraries. Various methods are available, including the use of DocView, Ariel, and ImageView. Staff at the Norris Medical Library have been delivering documents successfully via electronic methods (See the article on page 5 for more information). Directors agreed that it would be helpful if PSRML staff develop a workshop to help libraries learn about these different delivery methods.

Electronic Fund Transfer: PSRML has been actively investigating the possible use of an electronic method for payment of ILL requests within the region. A working group had been formed after last year's RLD meeting, to look into the issues and recommend a plan of action. Contacts have been made with all three Medical Library Association chapters in the region, and the general agreement is that some type of region-wide system would be preferable. The best system seems to be that used in Region 8 and PSRML will be testing their software later this year with

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a few libraries. A business plan will be developed and a further report sent to RL directors at the end of the year. [For further inform-ation, see the article on page 4].

Consumer health inform-ation services: NLM has begun a new initiative to provide consumer health information, including the coverage of consumer health titles in MEDLINE, and a special project involving public libraries in three other regions to train public library staff in using NLM products such as PubMed. Although the NN/LM program has been primarily focused on serving health professional information needs, many health sciences libraries have been providing services to consumers for years. With this new initiative, PSRML is interested in learning about the type and extent of consumer health services within the region. Resource Library directors described their own involvement in consumer health information delivery. Some RLs are working with public libraries, providing backup reference and/or ILL service. While many libraries are interested in providing more of this type of service, several major issues need to be addressed: the cost for document delivery which public libraries and most consumers are unable to cover; the need for in-depth explanation of the content of health information; and the

greater depth of indexing within medical libraries through the use of MeSH. PSRML is working on several consumer-health information projects, including a survey of California libraries, in conjunction with the California State Library, to identify CHIS activities among network and public libraries in the state.

BioSites: Many changes have been made to BioSites, based on suggestions from RL contributors. Primary Access Libraries (PALs) are now being contacted to serve as contributors, so that all subjects will be covered. Three PALs have agreed to work on BioSites topics. A listserv for all contributors has been set up to improve communication.   The evaluation of the site will be completed later this year after a second online survey of users is conducted.

Electronic Resources Symposium: PSRML staff have been conducting focus groups with PAL staff to obtain input for the design of a meeting next year to address issues related to providing access to electronic resources in the region. The focus groups helped determine the most important issues facing regional libraries, and these will be addressed at the meeting. Plans are to hold a symposium as part of the 1999 joint meeting of the MLA chapters. ✪

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PSRML ON THE ROAD...

As summer stretched into autumn, PSRML staff continued their traveling conducting business in many parts of the region during August and September. Concluding a region-wide project to gather input from staff in Primary Access Libraries, focus groups were held in Phoenix, San Francisco, and Sacramento with librarians from Arizona, California and Nevada. We really appreciate the assistance of all the librarians who helped organize the focus groups and contributed their views. It was a good opportunity to hear directly from network members who we don't often see face-to-face. Using the ideas filtered from the discussions, PSRML is organizing an educational symposium on electronic resources for the second day of the Joint Meeting in February. Watch for more details soon!

Sedona, AZ Visit

In August Claire Hamasu enjoyed the red rock country of Sedona, Arizona while collaborating with Mary Riordan and Patricia Auflick at the Arizona Rural Health Conference (ARH). The University of Arizona's Health Sciences Library and PSRML shared a table in the exhibit hall and the librarians assisted Ms. Auflick with the PubMed class that she offered attendees one afternoon. During the meeting, association president, Joel Brill, announced that Ms. Riordan was one of those newly elected to the ARH Association Board of Directors. Congratulations Mary!

Sonora, CA Visit

Judy Consales and Claire enjoyed the beauties of rural California when they traveled to Sonora to teach two evening sessions for the Tuolumne County CME Consortium in September. They presented "Breaking Through the Net: an Introduction to the Internet for Health Professionals" and "Introduction to PubMed". Our appreciation goes to Mary Ellinger and Bob Boggess for all the arrangements.

Sacramento, CA Visit

Beryl Glitz and Claire attended a meeting of the California Council of Local Health Officials, physicians who are working in the public health arena. Thanks to Gwendolyn Doebbert, our Regional Advisory Committee member for connecting us up with this group!

Needles, Fallbrook, Los Angeles, and Alhambra Visits

The rubber hit the road as Judy racked up miles on California freeways visiting Internet Connectivity Support Program sites in Needles, Fallbrook, Los Angeles, and Alhambra. All sites are now connected to the Internet and have taken advantage of the program to obtain a computer and/or financial support for Internet Service Provider (ISP) costs. See *Latitudes* vol. 7, no. 5, for more details on our Network member connectivity project, and do give Judy a call if you or an institution you know of can benefit from this program.

San Francisco, CA & Phoenix, AZ Visits

Judy taught two PubMed train-the-trainer classes for librarians; one in San Francisco and another in Phoenix. A special thanks to Joan Fierberg at San Francisco General Hospital and Mike Kronenfeld at Maricopa Integrated Health System for hosting the sessions.

Pleasanton, CA Visit

In September, Heidi Sandstrom visited Cheryl Warren, medical librarian at the ValleyCare Health Library and Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center. This consumer health library is located in an 1,800-square-foot suite on the campus of ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. One of its more unusual features is its Youth Health Collection, which contains materials concerned with youth health issues and at-risk behaviors. Cheryl spoke about the development of this collection at the MLA meeting in Philadelphia this past May, so it was a real treat to see the fruits of her labor. Cheryl is eager to share her resources with others --- PSRML is helping her achieve this goal. ✪

IS THERE LIFE AFTER COUPONS?

by Heidi Sandstrom

In August and September, Heidi Sandstrom, Network Coordinator at PSRML, gave brief presentations on the Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS) to the boards of MLGSCA and NCNMLG. EFTS is a transaction based electronic billing system for ILL and document delivery charges; it was successfully implemented in 1996 in the New England Region (Region 8) of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM).

EFTS Study Group Meeting

On the recommendation of the Resource Libraries in our Region, and the Regional Advisory Committee, PSRML facilitated a study group meeting in April to explore existing electronic fund transfer systems and to make recommendations based on their findings. Participants in this group represented the various constituencies in our Region: the MLA Chapters (Liz Gnerre-MLGSCA, Ron Schultz-NCNMLG, Fran Smith-MLAHPC); the Primary Access Libraries or PALs (Irene Lovas); the Resource Libraries (Barbara Slater-public and Alice Witkowski-private); and PSRML (Beryl Glitz and Heidi Sandstrom).

Study group participants concluded that the Region 8 system, EFTS, seems the most promising and that our Region is definitely interested in moving in this direction, especially now that Region 8 is developing EFTS2. This second generation of EFTS will encourage inter-regional billing for transactions and facilitate resource sharing beyond regional boundaries. Considerable savings can result as payment systems are automated and the need for invoicing decreases.

How EFTS Works

Participants in EFTS establish a deposit account and those libraries that charge for transactions establish an upload account and submit data to the EFTS system. When a library charges for a loan, they submit data to the system and their account is credited; the library that receives the loan has its account debited. A service fee for each transaction (Region 8 currently charges 3% to its participants) is charged to the lender to cover EFTS operational costs. Account statements are sent to participants monthly, and net lenders are reimbursed quarterly for the amount in their accounts less a minimum balance. You can include non-DOCLINE requests in EFTS, if the borrower is a member of EFTS.

Now What?

The EFTS2 software will be available in mid-September. Region 8 has encouraged our Region to get some hands-on experience with it, and to try out the system with a small group of participants. Some of the questions that remain are:

Who will manage the transaction data/server in our Region? What organization will manage the deposit account? How will minimum balances be maintained? What service fee will be charged to lenders?

Next Steps

If the answers to these and other questions about EFTS2 are acceptable to the various constituencies in our Region, EFTS2 could be a reality for us within the next year. Our Resource Library directors have recommended that Region 7 develop a business plan and test the EFTS2 software. These steps will be taken during the last quarter of this year. For more information, visit the EFTS Web site at this URL: http://nnlmner.uchc.edu/efts/index.html OR contact Heidi Sandstrom at PSRML by email (heidits@library.ucla.edu) or phone (800-338-7657). ✪

Newest DOCLINE Participants

Libraries from these institutions joined DOCLINE this past quarter. Welcome!

Arizona School of Professional Psychology	**Shriners Hospital for Children Northern California**	**US Naval Hospital Yokosuka Japan**	**Weed Army Community Hospital**
LIBID: 85021A	LIBID: 94122B	LIBID: 96350A	LIBID: 92311A
SERHOLD Code: ANZ	SERHOLD Code: SCH	SERHOLD Code: LUV	SERHOLD Code: WEE
Titles in SERHOLD: 76	Titles in SERHOLD: 41	Titles in SERHOLD: 163	Titles in SERHOLD: 22

ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT DELIVERY

by Alice Witkowski and Raul Recio
University of Southern California, Norris Medical Library

*When NLM revised Loansome Doc in March, a new option was added under **Method of Delivery**. Loansome Doc users could request that articles be delivered to them in a digital format. Many health professionals inquired about receiving articles at their email address but there weren't many libraries able or willing to do it. USC's Norris Medical Library was the first library offering this service in our region. The University of Guam's RFK Library has also begun to provide electronic delivery.*

The Norris Medical Library is now offering email delivery to libraries or individuals as an alternative method for receiving full text articles requested through interlibrary loan, photocopy, or Loansome Doc services. Using the Ariel for Windows Version 2.0 software, Norris Access Services staff scans the requested document and sends it over the Internet via email delivery. The requesting library or individual receives the document as an email message with an attachment in two parts. Part one is the GEDI header information page; part two is the image/ TIFF file, which provides the requested document. The requesting library or individual then opens, views, and prints the document using a TIFF image viewer. This new service may sound seamless; it is after some set up and user education!

At Norris, we started this project several months ago. The first step was to learn the acronyms like: TIFF, GIF, PDF, POP3 or SMTP(Internet standards for mail delivery); and MIME (multipurpose Internet mail extensions). The next step was to order Ariel Version 2.0. The third step was to get a few libraries and users to test the system. Seven libraries and two users volunteered to receive articles via email delivery. We were successful with five of the seven libraries in sending, receipting and printing emailed articles. One library did not have an email account while the other library was unable to view or print the email file. Positive responses ranged from "very clear quality" to "better than photocopy" to "faster." One library even forwarded the articles directly to their client. However, most libraries commented that they would not use this service if it meant extra charges. Another problem for several libraries was the size of TIFF files and the corresponding time to download the files. Our individual test patrons were thrilled once they got the email and viewers to work. Both have continued to request articles through email delivery and are willing to pay an additional service for this delivery. There is a $2.00 per article charge for email delivery. In addition, Norris is receiving many international Loansome Doc inquiries for email delivery. At present we have signed up one individual in Taiwan who is now receiving article requests via email.

Image Viewers

The biggest challenge for Norris was the time involved with user education regarding email, software requirements, and image viewers. The National Library of Medicine (NLM) provides one solution by offering DocView. DocView, an image viewer, is a Windows software application that enables users to view documents received over the Internet. It is available free online from NLM at http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/docview/project.htm. Any library, document delivery organization, or individual interested in Internet document delivery may download it and use it.

Another option is available to Windows 95 update, Windows 98 and Windows NT users. These versions come loaded with Wang ImageVue. If you cannot find Wangimg.exe among your program files it needs to be activated from the Control Panel. Select Add-Remove Programs/ Windows Setup/ Accessories/Detail and verify that the box next to Imaging has been checked.

Email Clients

Examples of clients with

which DocView has been successfully tested are Microsoft Exchange with Internet Mail (Windows 95 and Windows NT), Microsoft Outlook, Outlook Express, Eudora Pro (Windows NT, 95 and Windows 3.1), and Netmanage Chameleon (Windows 3.1). There are many other email clients that can receive MIME email and run DocView to display TIFF images but all of the above products work well with DocView.

Hardware/Software Requirements

To help users, information handouts were developed on DocView and desktop document delivery. Both documents discuss hardware and software requirements needed to receive documents via email. The Norris Medical Library does not recommend or provide technical support for specific image viewers.

The minimum hardware requirements for email document delivery are:

- 386 computer platform with a speed of 33 MHz and 8 Megabytes of memory
- Internet connection, either direct or dial-up
- Monitor with VGA resolution (640x480 or higher)
- Printer (preferably laser)

Software must include:

- Windows 95, Windows 98 or Windows NT operating systems
- SMTP and POP3 email with MIME support (i.e. Eudora Pro, Outlook Express, Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Exchange with Internet Mail)
- TIFF image viewer (i.e. DocView, Wang ImageVue)
- Web browser
- TCP/IP (Terminal Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) connection software

Requesting email document delivery from Norris Medical Library

Libraries:

- **Docline users:** if you know Norris has the document you need, prefix your Docline request to 90033F. Select "m or a" as the delivery option. Include your email address and "please email" in the comment section.
- **OCLC users:** include the email address and state "please email" in the "ship via" field.
  For mail or fax requests include email address and state "please email" on the request.

Loansome Doc Users: When filling out your Loansome Doc Identification Information form, select Internet Address as the method of delivery. Type your email address in the *Internet Address* block and enter "please email" in the requester note. ✪

Second Call for BioSites Selectors

The following BioSites topics are still "unclaimed" (http://galen.library.ucsf.edu/biosites): Anatomy, Clinical Trials, Education (General), Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Health Services Administration, Hematology, Immunology, Laboratory Medicine, Medicine (General), Occupational Medicine, Ophthalmology, Practice Guidelines, Sociology, Urology, & Virology.

Subject selectors are responsible for identifying resources in a particular subject area that are available on the Internet, submission of descriptive information on suitable sites, and monitoring the Internet for new resources. To see what's involved in becoming a participant, review Selector Responsibilities (http://galen.library.ucsf.edu/biosites/help/resp.html). Thank you to Eva Stowers; University of Nevada-Las Vegas; Liz Gnerre, House Ear Institute; Judy Sherman, California Endowment; Dennis Ritchey, Kaiser Drug Information Center; and James Howe, VA-San Francisco; for joining our original group of resource library participants.

Contact Judy Consales (consales@library.ucla.edu) if you would like to become a member of the BioSites team. ✪

1-800-633-5666 DISCONNECTED

Effective Wednesday, September 23, 1998, the DOCLINE Service Desk phone number 1-800-633-5666 was disconnected. Please use **1-888-FINDNLM** to reach the DOCLINE Service Desk. Select "3" on the menu for answers to questions about DOCLINE or interlibrary loans.

Year 2000 (Y2K)—Crisis or Over-hype?

by Judy Consales

An aftermath of the 1994 Northridge earthquake in severely impacted parts of Los Angeles was a temporary shut-down of conveniences we've all come to rely on including ATM machines, telephones, and electronic gas pumps. Following the earthquake, certain services were unavailable in sections of the city that had lost power. Fortunately, when public utilities were restored, all systems returned to normal.

In a little less than a year and a half, another occurrence is going to affect everyone. The cause of this impending event is the Millennium Bug, also known as the Year 2000 (Y2K) problem. Nearly all computers and databases store the year as a two digit number, like "71" or "98". It's always been understood that the missing digits are "19". However, in less than two years the missing digits won't be "19" anymore; they will be "20" and many computers won't know that. The computer calendars will turn back to 1900 instead of heralding the Year 2000 and the start of a new century.

Our reliance for functioning in an electronic age depends on computers as the backbone of ordinary systems like bill processing, gas pumping, traffic control, and elevator operation. Unlike the earthquake, Year 2000 is an event we know will be happening and there's time to prepare for it. Hospitals, universities, schools, and other institutions have appointed committees and review teams to analyze ramifications and fixes. Organizations need to immediately address their Y2K desktop-related problem and year 2000 challenges. The problem is both far reaching and costly. Virtually every large company and institution, as well as most personal computers made in the 1980s, have the glitch. One bright note, however, is that newer PCs and Macs are not affected by the problem.

The National Library of Medicine is working to make all systems, including the new DOCLINE, PubMed, and Internet Grateful Med, Y2K compliant. According to Kent A. Smith, Deputy Director, NLM and Project Director, NLM System Reinvention, "The bottom line is that NLM must move to a more modern system architecture if it is to maintain and enhance its information services. The schedule for the transition is being geared to the reality of what can be accomplished within a given time frame and is influenced in part by various Federal mandates, including deadlines for Year 2000 compliance and for consolidating government mainframe computer installations." NLM will also be posting Y2K compliance information on their Web site (http://www.nlm.nih.gov).

While some computer professionals insist there is nothing to worry about, others are prophets of doom. For now, be aware of the key issues and consult with your institution's information systems department to find out if library hardware and software are Y2K compliant. From an information systems point of view, ignoring the problem is an irresponsible, potentially dangerous strategy. Older computers and programs which do not recognize Year 2000 as the correct year will fail, or fail to operate properly.

How to Test Your PC for the Year 2000 Problem:

NSTL provides a free program to test your personal computer for the Year 2000 problem at **http://www.nstl.com/html/y2k_faq.html**. This web page also includes a nice frequently-asked-questions list about the Year 2000 problem.

Other selected Y2K Web resources are listed below:

- Frequently Asked Questions and Answers on the Year 2000 Challenge at **http://www.s390.ibm.com/stories/faq2000.html**

- PC Magazine Year 2000 Resource Center at **http://www.zdnet.com/pcmag/special/y2k/index.html**

- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center - Year 2000 Resources at **http://www.ttuhsc.edu/pages/year2000/Ttuy2k.htm**

- U.S. Federal Government Gateway for Year 2000 - Information Directories at **http://www.itpolicy.gsa.gov/mks/yr2000/y2khome.htm**

- Year 2000 Home Page at **http://www.ibm.com/IBM/year2000** ✪

Region 7 Serials Holdings Records

NLM Resource Grant Changes

Individual libraries in our Region can obtain a list of the serials holdings records that were in SERHOLD when the last dataset for our region was produced by NLM (7/98). This list is useful as a starting point for any future updating of your library's holdings records. **Please keep in mind that any changes you make to your SERHOLD records after 7/98 will affect DOCLINE routing, but will not be reflected in this list until it is updated next year**.

To get your file, follow these instructions:

- Point your Web browser to: **http://www.nnlm.nlm. nih.gov/nnlm/docdel/ ftp.select.php3**

- Select *Pacific Southwest Region (7)*, enter your library's 3-letter SERHOLD ID, then click on the "next" button.

- At the following screen, click on the URL that looks something like this: **ftp:// ftp.nnlm.washington.edu/ serhold/psr/07abc.txt**

If you save this file, you can then open and print it out in MS Word with 2 column format, 1 inch margins all around using Courier New, 8 pitch.

Contact PSRML if you are having trouble accessing your library's file or if you need additional assistance with SERHOLD updating. Again, please note that Regional information regarding SERHOLD can be found on our NN/LM PSR Web site at the following URL:

   http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih. gov/psr/serhold/ serhold.html ✪

Resource Grants promote the use of technology to share information resources, especially those provided by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). In September, NLM's Extramurals Program made a major change in the eligibility criteria. Health sciences professionals are no longer required to be the only target of the National Library of Medicine's two Resource Grants. With this change, libraries may apply for Information Access and Information Systems Grants for consumer health or patient education programs. See the fact sheet "Resource Grant Programs" at (www.nlm. nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/ resource_grants.html) for a description of the funding amounts, eligibility requirements, review elements, and deadlines. PSRML can provide assistance to anyone applying for these grants. ✪

Mark your calendars...

- **PSRML** is pleased to present, as part of the upcoming Joint Meeting of the **Northern California and Nevada Medical Library Group** and the **Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona**, a one-day symposium on electronic resources. The symposium will be held Saturday, February 6, 1999, at the Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, CA. Watch for more details at the Joint Meeting website: **http://www-ncnmlg.stanford.edu:5000/ jtmtg/**

- January 8, 1999 is the deadline to submit application for ACRL **Institute for Information Literacy Immersion '99**. Plattsburgh State University of New York, July 23-28, 1999. A two track training program for librarians new to teaching and for those who have experience is offered. **http://www.ala.org/acrl/nili/immerapp.html**

Grants to Network Members

Mining for federal funds is an arduous process. The faint hearted are easily turned away by the mountain of forms that must be completed. The stout hearted follow the twisting vein of criteria hitting it cleanly with descriptions of goals, methodology and resources to strike a successful proposal. Several of our Network members have done just that, successfully mined the federal government with successful proposals.

NLM Internet Connection Grant

NLM offers this grant to support institution-wide Internet connections to accelerate the pace with which health-related institutions become part of the electronic information web.

Oroville Hospital is a private, nonprofit, 153-bed acute care medical facility located in rural northern California. This year the hospital will receive $28,850 as part of the Internet Connection program. The goals of the program are to:

- Provide rural health professionals and managerial staff at Oroville Hospital and its remote clinics with high-speed access to Internet-based information and library resources.
- Establish secure electronic mail services within the hospital and its clinics, and improve and expand the availability of email communications with outside resources, such as tertiary care centers, state agencies, and other sources of biomedical information.

- Empower health professionals through training and education to integrate Internet-based information and communication resources, such as NLM databases and email, into everyday medical practice in support of patient care.

Rural Utility Service (RUS) Telecommunications Program http://www.usda.gov/rus/dlt/overview.htm

RUS helps rural schools and health care providers invest in telecommunications facilities and equipment to bring educational and medical resources that otherwise might be unavailable to rural areas.

Oroville Hospital is also a participant in a successful proposal submitted by the University of California Davis Health System. Under this program four high-speed telemedicine workstations will enable communication between rural clinic staff and specialists from the hospital with specialists at UC Davis Health System. Video-conferencing /telemedicine links to the hospital and UC Davis will be established to assist school personnel in twelve rural schools attend to the healthcare needs of their students.

Partners in Information Access

"Partners in Information Access" is a new award from the National Library of Medicine targeting the public health community. "Public health officials, as a group, have inadequate access to information services and technology," said Donald A.B. Lindberg, M.D., NLM Director. "This new initiative will allow them to get training and the latest health information in order to respond more effectively to disease outbreaks and environmental health risks that affect the health and well-being of entire communities."

The NLM and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine jointly presented 13 contracts totaling $650,000 as an important step toward this goal. The 13 projects are scattered around the United States in rural and other underserved areas, from Hawaii to Vermont. Following a review at the regional level, proposals were sent to NLM for review. Two proposals from the Pacific Southwest Region were successful:

Hi PHIVE (Hawaii Public Health Information Virtual Education)

This project represents a partnership between the Hawaii Medical Library and the School of Public Health at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. A needs assessment will be conducted. A local public health Internet site which focuses on Hawaii-related health data available through local and national sources will be developed. On-site Internet and PubMed/IGM training will be provided to key public health professionals using a mini-LAN consisting of 4 laptop computers. Online demonstrations will also be provided via exhibits at the meetings of the Hawaii Public Health Association and the

Hawaii Health Information Corporation.

Public Health Information Link (P.H.I.L.) for Nevada

The University of Nevada School of Medicine's Savitt Medical Library will target public health professionals working in two county health departments, the Nevada Rural Health Centers, Inc., the Nevada State Health Division, and the Nevada State Laboratory. Site coordinators will be identified at the five participating health agencies and the two professional associations. Onsite courses will be provided and additional training will be developed via Web-based tutorials. Training will also be offered through the existing statewide video conferencing system. The University of Nevada will collaborate with the Nevada Public Health Association and the Nevada Environmental Health Association to develop a Web site. Efforts will be made to make available unpublished gray literature and data generated by public health agencies in Nevada. Publicity will include publishing a semiannual newsletter, exhibiting at the Nevada Public Health Association meeting, placing articles in newsletters of state and local public health agencies and making local television appearances. ✪

Award Money is Still Available

Library Professional Development Award money is still available for NN/LM member librarians in our Region! For details and an application click on the link <Professional Development Award> at http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/psr/ph/funding.html.

California LSTA Grant Program Underway for 1999/2000

Kevin Starr, the State Librarian of California, has announced the 1999/2000 program of grant awards from federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis for the 1999/2000 funds available. The broad goal of LSTA is to provide local assistance to all types of libraries in the areas of technology innovation, resource-sharing, multitype library networking, and targeted services to people who are underserved, disadvantaged, geographically isolated, illiterate, etc. Proposals for a grant concept are due January 29, 1999. Successful grants will begin on October 1, 1999, and conclude on September 30, 2000.

Application materials will be mailed on request to any interested person. Send your request to:

Library Development Services
ATTN: LSTA Application Packet
California State Library
PO Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

PLEASE BE SURE TO ENCLOSE A MAILING LABEL WITH YOUR REQUEST!!!

For additional information or assistance with LSTA application materials, contact Jay Cunningham, LSTA Coordinator, at (916) 653-8112. ✪

MLA Oral History Tapes

In *Latitudes* vol. 7 no. 2, we published a list of MLA Oral History transcripts which are held by the UCLA Biomedical Library. The following transcripts have been added to the Library's collection and are available on interlibrary loan. The complete list is on our Web site at: http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/psr/lat/v7n2/mlaoralhist.html.

Person Interviewed	Date of Interview	Interviewer	UCLA Biomed. Library Call Number
Yast, Helen T.	1982	Nancy W. Zinn	WZ 100 Y26 1982
Sargent, Charles W.	1998	Anne Gilmer	WZ 100 S2454 1998
Matheson, Nina	1997	Nancy Bruce	WZ 100 M421 1997

New Consumer Health Brochure from MLA

In the increasing amount of print and electronic health information now available to consumers, there are many medical terms unfamiliar to the general public. Consumers encounter medical journals and articles filled with medical jargon or "medspeak," the specialized language of health care professionals. "We as medical librarians recognize the public's need for information they can understand," Medical Library Association (MLA) President Jacqueline Donaldson Doyle says.

To support consumers who wish to take an active role in their health care, MLA has developed a new consumer brochure, *Deciphering Medspeak*. The brochure contains definitions of over 100 medical terms and a list of prescription shorthand terms. The brochure also contains tips on identifying quality medical information available on the Internet.

Doyle's presidential theme, "Making a Difference," captures the essence of the brochure and of medical librarians' efforts in addressing the medical information needs of consumers.

"As medical librarians, our knowledge and perspectives are unique; they add to the value of the national medical information infrastructure. By responding to the needs of health care consumers and organizations, medical librarians can and do make a difference," Doyle stated.

Deciphering Medspeak can be ordered from MLA headquarters at a cost of $10 for a pack of 50 for MLA members, $16.50 for nonmembers, plus shipping and handling. To place an order, call 312/419-9094 x19. Single copies of the brochure are available free of charge by contacting Tomi Gunn at mlams@mlahq.org or by calling 312/419-9094 x11.

MLA is a professional organization of more than 1,200 institutions and 3,800 individual members in the health sciences information field. MLA members serve society by developing new health information delivery systems, fostering educational and research programs for health sciences information professionals, and encouraging an enhanced public awareness of health care issues.

(*from the MLA Web site: http://www.mlanet.org/*) ✪
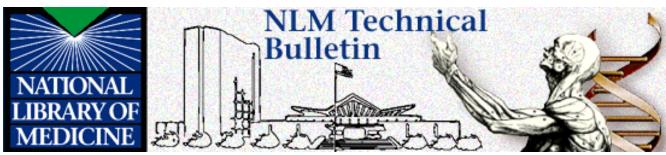
WHAT'S NEW IN INTERNET GRATEFUL MED V2.6

(http://igm.nlm.nih.gov/splash/whats-new.html)

This version of Internet Grateful Med (IGM) was released September 2, 1998. It has a number of important new features. The Internet Grateful Med User's Guide and the 40+ segments of online help text have been updated to reflect the new capabilities. The most important changes are

- IGM is now searching MEDLINE using the retrieval engine of NLM's PubMed system.
- The default search is now all 9+ million records of MEDLINE (including PREMEDLINE) from 1966 to the present
- The IGM Results Screen now offers the extremely useful PubMed capability to find Related Articles. Try it! ✪

Consumer Titles in MEDLINE

Information on consumer titles indexed in MEDLINE can be found at the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region Web site. This URL will get you to the list: http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/contitl.html. ✪

NLM Technical Bulletin

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja98/ja98_technote.html

CANCERLIT® and PDQ® To Be Removed from the NLM Databases - Available from NCI's Web Site
(from the *NLM Technical Bulletin*)

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), together with the National Library of Medicine (NLM), has decided to cease including direct MEDLARS access to CANCERLIT and PDQ. These databases will no longer be available on the NLM computer effective December 14, 1998, the date that NLM will bring up its 1999 system. When CANCERLIT is withdrawn, it will contain data through its 9811 Entry Month. Accordingly, NLM will also discontinue leasing CANCERLIT.

PDQ information and the CANCERLIT database are available on the NCI's CancerNet (TM) Web site http://cancernet.nci.nih.gov. Searchers do not need to wait until December to acquaint themselves with

the search features that CancerNet offers for these databases. You can visit this Web site now. You also can access these databases through one of the NCI's licensing partners. For more information on how to get PDQ or CANCERLIT, call the NCI's PDQ/CANCERLIT Service Center (1-800-345-3300, fax to 1-800-380-1575 or e-mail to pdqsearch@icic.nci.nih.gov). Information on vendors that license PDQ and CANCERLIT from the NCI can be obtained by fax (301-480-8105) or by e-mail license@icic.nci.nih.gov.

—prepared by Jim Carter
National Cancer Institute

Impact of the NLM ILS on CATLINE®/AVLINE®/ SERLINE®

(from the *NLM Technical Bulletin*)

NLM has selected Endeavor Information Systems' Voyager as its new integrated library system (ILS) to support basic library functions including: acquisitions, serials control, cataloging, collection management, circulation, preservation, and binding. Voyager will also serve as the NLM Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC). In the ILS, the OPAC will provide the retrieval engine for online access to the Library's cataloging records for monographs, audiovisuals, and serials, replacing the existing online access services Locator®, CATLINE, AVLINE, and SERLINE.

The initial phase of the Voyager implementation will affect the AVLINE, CATLINE and SERLINE databases. These files are currently available free of charge via Locator from the NLM Web site http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/locator.html and also on the ELHILL mainframe computer, where they are billed databases.

As NLM makes the transition to the ILS, there will be an impact on both online access and record distribution from these databases.

Impact on Online Access

- NLM will cease adding bibliographic records to CATLINE and AVLINE in late September 1998. Although the files will remain available online, these databases will be effectively frozen for approximately 3 months until they are replaced by the NLM OPAC when it becomes available on the Web. Users should be aware that the content of these databases will not be current during this period. (Note: All SDI searches in these files have already been discontinued).

- Year-end processing for the public AVLINE and CATLINE databases will take place in conjunction with regular year-end in December 1998. Changes to the files relate primarily to the transition to the 1999 MeSH vocabulary. No new bibliographic records will be added to these rebuilt files.

- SERLINE will continue to be available during this transition period. The last full update to SERLINE will occur at the end of September. Future updates to SERLINE will not update all bibliographic fields, and data in some fields will reflect changes in format. Users should be aware that the General Notes (GN) field will not be updated, nor will GN information be provided for new records.

- When the NLM OPAC becomes available on the Web, now planned for early 1999, CATLINE, AVLINE and SERLINE will no longer be available for public searching on ELHILL. Also, Locator access will be discontinued at that same time. All information currently accessed through Locator will be available from the ILS.

Impact on Data Distribution

- Distribution of SERLINE in ELHILL format to licensees will continue until a new system for distribution is developed in 1999. All licensees have been informed of this forthcoming change.

- Beginning in October 1998, NLM will stop distribution of AVLINE and CATLINE records in USMARC format for a period of 1-3 months or until it completes the programming necessary to provide this service in the ILS environment. All licensees have been alerted of this hiatus.

- In this interim period, however, NLM will continue to provide bibliographic records for biomedical cataloging-in-publication (CIP) titles to the Library of Congress as part of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) program. Such records will appear in OCLC and other bibliographic utilities, as distributed by the Library of Congress, but will not be represented in the NLM online files until the NLM OPAC becomes available on the Web.

NLM's new Online Public Access Catalog available through the ILS will provide improved and expanded search capabilities. For further information, see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about NLM's Upcoming Integrated Library System Fact Sheet available at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/ils_faq.html. In addition, there will be more information in the September-October NLM Technical Bulletin on the transition to the ILS and how it will impact other databases.

—prepared by Alice Jacobs and Dianne McCutcheon Technical Services Division

NLM Online Training Program - 1999

(from the *NLM Technical Bulletin*)

The new online training program and classes have been a huge success. What a difference a year makes! In 1997 NLM and the National Online Training Center trained about 450 searchers during the January-July time period. In 1998 we trained over 1,500 searchers during that same time period! That's a 200% increase.

And we are determined to try to reach those of you we missed this past year. The National Online Training Center conducted over 75 PubMed/Internet Grateful classes during the months of January through July 1998. Even with this large number of classes, there were cities and states in which the Center was unable to conduct training because of a lack of computer labs and facilities. The year of 1999 promises to be different.

In response to requests for training on the west coast, the trainers will be able to conduct classes in Hawaii, the San Francisco area, the San Diego area, the cities of Irvine and Sacramento, in addition to classes scheduled in Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland.

The 1999 training schedule along with the remainder of the 1998 classes may be found at the National Online Training Web site http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online/

Classes Offered
We will continue to offer, at no charge, two classes for PubMed and Internet Grateful Med, and a class on the chemical and toxicological databases:

- Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases

This one-day class is designed for experienced MEDLARS or MEDLINE searchers. It is expected that students attending this class have familiarity with MEDLINE, MeSH vocabulary and Boolean logic. Those core topics are not covered in this Transition class. The class examines both the PubMed and Internet Grateful Med search interfaces. It includes information for "translating" functions used by experienced searchers, especially those using ELHILL command language, to methods used by these Web-based interfaces. There is no charge for this class.

- Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases

This two-day class is designed for librarians and information specialists who are new to searching MEDLINE. This includes those who have never searched before, or the user with some searching experience but little prior knowledge of the MEDLINE database or the MeSH vocabulary. Students learn to search MEDLINE via both PubMed and Internet Grateful Med, with emphasis on areas specific to NLM databases, including the MeSH vocabulary, database fields and creation, and Boolean logic. There is no charge for this class.

- Chemical/Toxicology/TOXNET Specialized Module

This two-day class covers NLM's chemical and toxicology files, including TOXNET databases and assumes knowledge of the ELHILL command language. Both command language and the new TOXNET Web interface are now taught in these classes. There is no charge for this class. It is taught only at NLM in Bethesda, MD.

How to Apply
You may view the training class schedule and register online for classes at http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online.

Every attempt will be made to place training applicants in the class requested. If a class is filled, the applicants will be registered for their second choice, and also automatically placed on a waiting list for their first choice. Approximately one month prior to the class, registrants will receive a packet with information on hotels, local site arrangements and the class agenda. Information on location of training sites and links to many of the site's Web sites are also available from this Web site. Please note that all classes are considered "tentative" pending sufficient enrollment one month before the class.

Each person makes a difference
Our classes are in demand and usually fill rapidly, often creating a waiting list. In order to help us provide training opportunities to as many people as possible, if you register for a class and your plans change, please notify the National Online Training Center office. The more advance notice you give us, the more likely it is that someone else can take the space available. It is very disappointing to begin a

Free TOXNET Web Interface
(from the *NLM Technical Bulletin*)

class with empty chairs that could have been occupied. We are asking for your cooperation to help allow as many people as possible to benefit from this free training program.

Training Workbooks Available
PubMed and Internet Grateful Med training workbooks are available for downloading from the NLM's Web site. The workbooks are available in three formats: PDF, WordPerfect, and PostScript. These workbooks are not copyrighted. Feel free to use any part of the workbooks — you may customize part of the workbook for training programs, demos, or workshops you conduct. Or you may use the workbooks as a self-training guide if you can't get to a class or your scheduled class is several months away. The workbooks are found at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/web_based.html

Questions/More Information
If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the National Online Training Center or NLM Customer Service:

E-mail: notc@nyam.org
custserv@nlm.nih.gov

Phone: National Online Training Center
800-338-7657 (press 2) or 212-822-7396
NLM Customer Service
888-FINDNLM
(888-346-3656)

Web Site: http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online

—prepared by Janet Zipser MEDLARS Management Section

The new free-of-charge World Wide Web interface to all TOXNET databases is now available at http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov.

Users can readily extract toxicology data and literature references, as well as toxic chemical release information by searching for specific chemicals or subject terms. A variety of display options are offered, including sending results by e-mail or FTP. Links are provided for Internet Grateful Med, PubMed, and other sources of toxicological information. Future links for chemical structure searching and other tools are planned.

Fee-based direct (command-line) searching will still be available for users lacking Web access.

NLM would appreciate hearing your comments on this new Web interface. Please direct your e-mail to TOXNET User Support at toxmail@toxnetmail.nlm.nih.gov.

TRI96 on TOXNET

On June 18, 1998, TRI96 joined TRI87-95 to become the tenth file in the Toxic Chemical Release Inventory (TRI) series of files on TOXNET. TRI96 covers data from the 1996 Reporting Year. As mandated by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA), EPA

collects data from facilities around the country on estimated releases of certain chemicals to the environment (air, water, land, underground injection), as well as data related to source reduction and recycling activities.

Starting with the 1996 Reporting Year, a new subfield, Underground Injection Well Class Code (UINJC), was added which corresponds to the type of well disposal used for the toxic chemical at the facility. The three possible values are UI0 underground injection on-site to all wells for TRI87-95, UI1-underground injection on-site to class I wells, and UI2 underground injection on-site to class II-V wells. Two new codes, D75 RCRA Subtitle C landfills and D76 other landfills, were added to the existing list of possible Land Disposal Method values (LANDM).

For TRI96, EPA has delisted two chemicals, diethyl phthalate and bis(2-ethylhexyl) adipate, also known as di-(2-ethylhexyl) adipate. Also, non-aerosol forms of hydrochloric acid are no longer reported in TRI96.

All updates to TRI backfiles have been completed and are now available online. For further information on TRI96 or TOXNET, please contact the TRI Representative at (301) 496-6531.

1999 National Online Training Center Schedule

Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to search NLM's Databases

January 14, 1999	San Francisco, CA
January 15, 1999	San Francisco, CA
January 19, 1999	Honolulu, HI
January 20, 1999	Honolulu, HI
January 21, 1999	Honolulu, HI
February 10, 1999	Los Angeles, CA
March 25, 1999	Sacramento, CA
March 26, 1999	Sacramento, CA
March 31, 1999	Irvine, CA
April 15, 1999	Las Vegas, NV
April 16, 1999	Las Vegas, NV
July 15, 1999	San Diego, CA
July 16, 1999	San Diego, CA
November 3, 1999	Los Angeles, CA
November 4, 1999	Los Angeles, CA
November 8, 1999	Sacramento, CA
November 9, 1999	Sacramento, CA

Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to search NLM's Databases

February 8-9, 1999	Los Angeles, CA
March 29-30, 1999	Irvine, CA
May 24-25, 1999	San Francisco, CA
November 1-2, 1999	Los Angeles, CA

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